

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 193057
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 SP-02 SS-15
INR-10 /048 R

DRAFTED BY AF/C:LDJUNIOR:LAR
APPROVED BY AF/C:LDJUNIOR
AF/C:REGTRIBBIN
AF/W:DMCELHANEY
HA:SLOWMAN
DOD:MAJ. M.SIERRA

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 193057

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, SHUM, GB

SUBJECT: REQUEST TO TRANSPORT BENINESE

REF: A) LIBREVILLE 2077; B) STATE 191856

1. YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO DRAW ON VALID CONSIDERATIONS
OUTLINED PARA 4 REF. A IN OUTLINING REASONS FOR USG UN-
WILLINGNESS TO PARTICIPATE IN AIRLIFT OF BENINESE AS RE-
QUESTED BY GOG.

2. HOWEVER, DEPARTMENT'S REFUSAL IS IN FACT BASED PRIMARI-
LY ON HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS. WHILE WE SYMPATHIZE
WITH PLIGHT OF BENINESE SO ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY GOG
ACTION, WE DO NOT CONSIDER THAT RECTIFICATION OF SITUATION
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LIES IN USG PARTICIPATION AIRLIFT. YOU SHOULD NOT HESITATE
TO REITERATE THIS CONCERN TO GOG AS RATIONALE UNDERLYING
OUR DECISION.

3. IF NECESSARY, YOU SHOULD ALSO POINT OUT THAT, SHOULD
REPATRIATION ACTION BEGIN TO RECEIVE MORE U.S. MEDIA
ATTENTION THAN HITHERTO, THERE WOULD BE SUBSTANTIAL AD-

VERSE PUBLIC AND CONGRESSIONAL REACTION. CRITICISM OF GOG, AS WELL AS USG, WOULD BE MORE SHARPLY FOCUSSED AND ARTICULATED AT THAT POINT HAD USG LENT LOGISTIC SUPPORT TO WHAT

WOULD BE BROADLY PERCEIVED IN U.S. AS GABONESE OVER-REACTION TO A PROBLEM BEST HANDLED IN POLITICAL CHANNELS. THIS DOES NOT COMPRISE A JUDGEMENT ON OUR PART OF THE MERITS OF THE DISPUTE, WHICH IS OF COURSE FOR RESOLUTION BETWEEN THE TWO AFRICAN PARTIES. IT IS, HOWEVER, INTENDED TO CONVEY FRANKLY TO THE GOG WHY WE CANNOT PROVIDE THE REQUESTED ASSISTANCE. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRANSPORTATION, REPATRIATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE193057
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: LDJUNIOR:LAR
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780313-0887
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978072/aaaaabid.tel
Line Count: 73
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 6af0e66c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 LIBREVILLE 2077, 78 STATE 191856
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1883593
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REQUEST TO TRANSPORT BENINESE
TAGS: PINT, SHUM, GB, DM
To: LIBREVILLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6af0e66c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014